



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



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TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Samuel Unger
Unit Chief, TMDL Unit 2

DATE: September 24, 2003

SUBJECT: UPDATE OF WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVE FOR CHLORIDE - SANTA CLARA RIVER - REACH 3; NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

On September 9, 2003, you were sent a letter that the Regional Board staff has prepared a Basin Plan Amendment to update the water quality objective for chloride. The letter correctly summarized the proposed Regional Board action, but the subject of the letter incorrectly identified the action as a TMDL for nitrogen compounds. On September 22, 2003 a revised notice was posted on the web page. The subject of the revised notice incorrectly identified the action as a TMDL for chloride. The subject lines of both the letter and revised notice were typographical errors. The Regional Board will be considering the updated chloride water quality objective at its November 6, 2003 board meeting.

As described in the September 9, 2003, letter, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) will consider a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to update the water quality objective for chloride in Reach 3 at Santa Paula in the Santa Clara River. A public hearing is scheduled for **Thursday, November 6, 2003** at 9:00 A.M., at

Simi Valley Council Chamber. **This location has been changed.** [Click here for the notification](#)
2929 Tapo St.
Simi Valley, CA

At the public hearing, the public will have opportunity to comment on the proposed objective change.

A copy of the Tentative Basin Plan Amendment and a CEQA checklist for the chloride objective change for Reach 3 of the Santa Clara River is posted on the Regional Board's web page. The web address is <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/meetings/tmdl/tmdl.html>. Please contact Elizabeth Erickson at 213-576-6683 or Sam Unger at 213-576-6784 with questions or to request additional copies of the staff report and related materials.

In accordance with the September 9, 2003 letter, a meeting was held pursuant to California Public Resource Code section 21083.9 to receive comments on the appropriate scope and content of the "functionally equivalent" environmental document to be prepared pursuant to Section

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2080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The scoping meeting for the action described above was held at the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board in the Pacific Ocean Conference Room at 11 A.M. on Monday, September 22, 2003.

Please note that the public meeting on November 6, 2003 provides an opportunity for public oral presentations, but those comments should be summarized in writing to the extent possible. Time limitations on presentations may be imposed. In order to review and to assess comments, the Regional Board staff must receive written comments no later than 5:00 p.m. on **October 24, 2003**. Comments should be submitted to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles California, 90013

ATTN: Elizabeth Erickson

Background

The current Basin Plan objectives for chloride for waters of Reach 3 near Santa Paula in the Santa Clara River are those originally set forth in the 1978 Water Quality Control Plans for the Santa Clara River Basin and Los Angeles River Basin (1978 Basin Plans). These objectives were based on the results of in-stream sampling and technical studies conducted between 1951 and 1975. In December 2000, the Regional Board resolved to modify the water quality objective from its current value of 80 mg/L to 100 mg/L in the lower river based upon the collection of 25 additional years of sampling and an assessment of the beneficial use requirements. The State Board did not review this resolution due to concerns about chloride objectives used in the TMDL for the Upper Santa Clara, which was adopted on July 10, 2003. Also in 2003 the U.S. EPA completed a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for chloride in this reach which assessed the sources and beneficial use requirements and anticipates the modification of the WQO to 100 mg/L.

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